

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Original): An amplifier arrangement comprising an audio input, an audio output, a switching regulator and a switching amplifier, wherein the switching regulator is arranged to receive a variable DC electrical input from a power supply and output a substantially constant voltage to the switching amplifier, said power supply being arranged remotely of said amplifier arrangement.

Claim 2 (Original): The amplifier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the switching amplifier is a digital amplifier.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The amplifier arrangement according to ~~claim 1 or~~ claim 2, wherein the switching amplifier is a class D digital amplifier with associated H-bridge circuit on the output stage.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The amplifier arrangement according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 2, wherein the circuitry of either the switching regulator and/or the switching amplifier is constructed of discrete components.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The amplifier arrangement according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 4, wherein the switching amplifier processes at least two channels of audio input.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The amplifier arrangement according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 5, further including an auxiliary control device, e.g. to control the audio output volume.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The amplifier arrangement according to ~~anyone of the preceding claims~~ claim 6, wherein the switching regulator and the switching amplifier are housed in a single housing.

Claim 8 (Original): The distributed audio installation according to claim 1, wherein the power supply is connectable to the amplifier arrangement via a cable which varies in length between a preselected maximum e.g. 50m, and a preselected minimum, e.g. 1m.

Claims 9-10 (Cancelled).